GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3051
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2000
BAN ON IMPORT OF CARPET BY FOREIGN COUNTRIES
TARUN GOGOI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries have imposed a ban on the import of products of carpet industry and some other industries where child labour are working;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the restrictions and to boost up the export?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH))

(a) and (b) : No, Sir. However, there have been a few instances of some developed countries having put some restrictions on imports of the carpets and some other products on the pretext of alleged use of child labour. For example, a consignment of beedies was detained by the United States Customs Authorities based on an allegation that the firm had used child labour in making beedies.

(c) : The Government have constituted a Standing Group of Secretaries of various Ministries/Departments including a representative of the concerned State Government, to deal with the problem of child labour particularly in respect of items like Carpets, diamonds, sports goods etc. The steps taken by the Government to boost the exports of carpets etc. include organisation of buyer-seller meets, overseas publicity, organisation of workshops on design development and export management, participation in various international trade fairs, sponsoring of sales-cum-study tours abroad and organisation of Indian Carpets Expo annually at New Delhi by Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC).